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APR 16 1998

April 15, 1998

Ms. Kim Canecanevari
 CALFED Bay-Delta Program
 1416 Ninth St., Suite 1155
 Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Public Hearing, April 23, 1998

Dear Ms. Canecanevari:

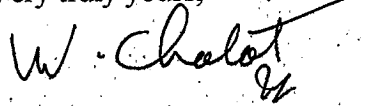
This is to advise that the Center for Marine Conservation intends to participate in CALFED's Public Hearing scheduled for the above-captioned date. We would like to be placed on any list of scheduled participants and provided with a formal agenda, if one is prepared. We intend to comment on the introduction of alien species into San Francisco Bay through discharge of ships' ballast water and the role CALFED can play in solving this problem.

CMC has participated in the public comment process on the EIS/R for the Port of Oakland's planned dredging project and brought to the Port's attention the fact that its expansion will substantially increase the discharge of ballast water by ships using its facility. In addition, we proposed a number of mitigation measures which the Port should implement to prevent the increased influx of alien species which will occur with increased ballast water discharge. We also advised the Port of potential sources of funding for such mitigation measures, including CALFED.

We understand that CALFED is in the process of designating certain monies for use in programs which address the issue of alien species introduction. This funding will be most appreciated. Among the measures we feel must be implemented are mandatory offshore ballast water exchange by ships entering San Francisco Bay as well as construction of onshore facilities for off-loading and treatment of ballast water before it is discharged into the Bay. Therefore, we urge that CALFED's funding is specifically allocated for development and implementation of such measures by local ports and

maritime operators and that CALFED staff work with grant recipients to implement these measures as soon as practical. Should you have any questions concerning CMC's participation at the hearing, do not hesitate to contact me, or John Stonich, or Linda Sheehan, the Center's project attorneys on this issue.

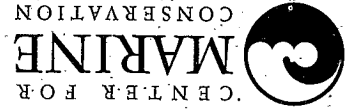
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Chabot", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Warner Chabot
Director, Pacific Region

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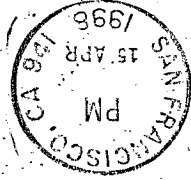
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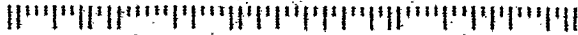
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